

TO: Historian  
Approved For Release 2000/09/14 : CIA-RDP84-00022R00000008-5 19 June 1952  
25X1A FROM: [REDACTED]  
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**SECURITY INFORMATION**  
SUBJECT: Your memo re: Scientific Intelligence - 11 June 1952

1. I have found nothing referring to Scientific Intelligence in the printed History of OSS. However, activity was shown in technical intelligence.

OSS Archives File 2160.

Under SI Branch Order No. 30, 13 March 1944, a Technical Section was established. Its duties were "to review technical cables, xxx screen the material and compile a "Weekly Summary of Technical Intelligence Reports" "xxx to obtain answers to requests for foreign spot intelligence of a technical character"xxx.

In another file with the same number there is a report dated 9 February 1945, Technical Section SI - History.

The Section established effective liaison with the branches of the Armed Forces by which technical information was relayed to them and their requirements forwarded to the field. It arranged to bring to the US certain scientists whose experience proved of great value.

It sent abroad certain technical material on bridges in Italy, France and other countries being fought over.

It reviewed each month a large number of technical reports and disseminated the most important.

It prepared "indicators" for use of agents who were non-technical to enable them to make pertinent observations.

It fulfilled other duties in connection with the satisfaction of technical requirements.

So far as can be judged, however, no scientific intelligence information was sought after or collected in the manner in which OSI is

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2. Certain files of SWNCC are in the Library. They are in some disarray and possibly incomplete. There is, however, a file of considerable size titled "List of SWNCC papers as of 1 September 1947." Matters referring to Atomic Energy are as follows, but I could not locate the papers themselves:

SWNCC 52/10, 19 February '46. Availability to Far Eastern Commissions of JCS messages on Japanese Atomic Energy Research.

52/17, 3 June '46. Control and surveillance of Atomic Nuclear Energy Research and Development in Japan.

52/21, 25 July '46. Policy statement regarding Japanese research in Atomic Energy field.

206/37D, 23 December '46. Establishment of policies relative to matters of mutual interest under consideration by London Central Coordinating Committee on guided and propelled missiles and projectiles and the JRDB

206/43, 26 February '47. Same title.

248, 14 January '46. Plan for Atomic Bomb tests against naval vessels.

253, 24 January '46. Guidance as to the military implications of a UN Commission on Atomic Energy.

Unfortunately, none of these papers seem relevant to your question.

3. NIA 6th meeting, 21 August 1946.

The minutes show that Secretary Patterson was most desirous of immediate action on the matter of giving CIG authority to coordinate the collection of intelligence on foreign atomic energy developments.

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Secretary Forrestal was for taking action also.

Secretary Acheson did not wish to act too hurriedly.

The Atomic Energy Commission had not yet been appointed and he felt they might like to have some say.

There was a small number of people attached to General Groves personal staff on the Manhattan Engineering District, who were engaged in the collection of foreign intelligence on atomic energy. It was felt that the duties of this Staff were entirely separate from the Mission to be performed by AEC and their transfer to CIG could in no way aggravate the Commission. NIA #6 had been prepared, authorizing this transfer. This directive was approved without prejudice to future changes which might be desired by AEC.

The President was absent from Washington, and Admiral Leahy undertook to advise him by telegram of the action by NIA.

The President in reply desired to have the matter deferred.

There seems to have been some anxiety about what AEC might do for at

NIA 7th meeting, 25 September 1946, General Vandenberg brought up the relationship of NIA to AEC. It was rumored that AEC would conduct a foreign intelligence operation which would involve danger of conflict with similar CIG operations. Admiral Leahy stated he thought the President would do his best to turn over Atomic Energy Intelligence activities to NIA.

At its 9th meeting, 12 February 1947, NIA approved the transfer to CIG, which was effected 18 February 1947, of the personnel designated in the suppressed NIA #6. (This number subsequently allotted to a

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directive on another subject). NIA #9, containing the same general wording as its predecessor, was approved 18 April 1947.

NIA 10th meeting, 26 June 1947. Admiral Hillenkoetter reported the transfer of personnel under NIA #9. He further stated informal working agreements had been established, and a formal working agreement was imminent.

He also stated that working agreements had been established, wherein CIG acts as the scientific intelligence facility for JRDB.#

DCI further noted that CIG was being called upon by AEC, JDRB, and other agencies for scientific intelligence, but is unable to meet requirements fully because of the general lack of qualified collectors of scientific intelligence.

The personnel transferred to CIG under NIA #9 were known as the Manhattan Project Foreign Intelligence Section (MPFIS) and were at first placed in the Office of DCI. It was established as the Nuclear Energy Group in the Scientific Branch, ORE, by CIG-A-605, 28 March 1947. (See copy of memorandum attached A).

The record now becomes confused. CIA General Order No. 5, 14 January 1948, deals with reorganization of the Scientific Branch, ORE, (See copy attached B). This was rescinded 1 March 1948. (See copy attached C). The Nuclear Energy Group was transferred to OSC 5 March 1948. On 3 March 1948 a memo from DCI to AD/ORE restates the functions of the Chief, Scientific Branch ORE, the Nuclear Energy Group having

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# Note: JRDB was formed in July, 1946; the agreement with CIG was signed 10 January 1947. In March, 1948, DCI asked to be released from the agreement, as it was felt to be superfluous after the establishment of CIA.

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been assigned elsewhere. (See copy attached D). In the opinion of [REDACTED] of OSI, who has been querying some of the old-timers, the transfer of NEG to OSD was made for reasons of security.

The NEG was transferred from OSD to OSI on its establishment under CIA General Order #13, 31 December 1948.

4. In the early period of Scientific Branch, ORE, the staff appears to have consisted of two men, who were, for the most part, liaison with other agencies.

No information has been uncovered regarding [REDACTED] 25X1A and why he did not take the post of Chief, Scientific Branch in October, 1946.

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[REDACTED] became Chief, 1 October 1947 and resigned in December, 1948.

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[REDACTED] who is now on leave will endeavor, on his return, to obtain more information about the Scientific Branch ORE.

5. File of ORE Status Reports (Progress reports issued monthly).

31 December '46. The Scientific Branch had not been activated as of that date. ORE had under consideration the coordination of "an interagency project for the compilation of a guide for use of collecting agencies in procuring required scientific intelligence information."

February, 1947. JRDB paper 49/2, 10 January 1947. "Program for JRDB - CIG Cooperation in the Field of Scientific Intelligence" was received and was being employed as the basis for planning the organization and program of activity of the Branch.

April, 1947. Liaison between the Scientific Branch and various components of JRDB had increased in scope.

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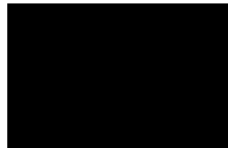
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July, 1947. On 9 July representatives of CIG, the IAB agencies and JRDB discussed the subject of National Scientific Intelligence Requirements. It was agreed that coordination of effort in the field was required.

August, 1947. The project initiated by ORE (to develop for JRDB those scientific and technological capabilities of the USSR which will influence the National Defense Economy of the United States as of 1949) was proceeding as satisfactorily as possible with the scanty information available.

It must be kept in mind that the collection of Scientific Intelligence seemed to be the business of no single organization and that NSCID's 2 and 3, 13 January '48 left the matter to "each agency in accordance with its respective needs."

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